

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The present invention provides a distributed processing system that eliminates the need for server clustering  
5 technology and will not pose a problem that the overall system would go down when the server fails, and clients for use in said system.

Of a plurality of POS clients 10a, 10b, 10c, ..., and 11a, 11b, 11c, and so forth that are linked in series to form a  
10 system, fat clients 10a and 10b have server functionality so that they execute processing in response to requests issued from thin clients 10b, 10c, ..., 11b, 11c, and so forth and output the processing results to said thin clients that issued such requests, and they are capable of standalone operation.

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